

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 109468
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:HWEINLAND:MG

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:SESTEINER

-----140851Z 129338 /23

O 140833Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 109468

EXDIS

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION TEHRAN INFO SECSTATE FROM MOSCOW
MAY 13:

QUOTE S E C R E T MOSCOW 6635

EXDIS

TEHRAN FOR THE SECRETARY FROM TOON

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR US

SUBJECT: VANCE/GROMYKO TALKS IN GENEVA

REF: (A) STATE 107417 (TOSEC 040239), (B) SECTO 44065

1. I CALLED ON GROMYKO AT NOON TODAY FOR THIRTY MINUTES TO DISCUSS
GENEVA SCHEDULE PER REFTELS.

2. HIS COMMENTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

--HE ARRIVES GENEVA TUESDAY MAY 17

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--HE AGREES TO 1100-1200 ENMOD SIGNING CEREMONY ON MAY 18 BUT WILL
NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE A PRESS STATEMENT ("I WILL NOT SAY A WORD").
INSTEAD HE WILL DISTRIBUTE TO PRESS TWO PAGE STATEMENT ON SIGNIFICANCE

SOVIETS ATTRIBUTE TO AGREEMENT. TO SAVE TIME HE ALSO HOPES TO AVOID
GETTING INTO LENGTHY CONVERSATIONS WITH MINISTERS OF THIRD COUNTRY

SIGNATORIES; HE PLANS SIMPLY TO SHAKE HANDS.

--INSTEAD OF ADJOURNING AT NOON TO NEARBY ROOM "UNDER UN ROOF", HE PREFERS BRIEF SIGNING CEREMONY FOR BILATERAL US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT (WITH PHOTOGRAPHS) AT SOVIET MISSION THAT AFTERNOON THEN START BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IMMEDIATELY. I NOTED THAT YOU WOULD BE PLEASED TO HOST FIRST BILATERAL SESSION AT US MISSION BUT WOULD GLADLY ACCEPT HIS OFFER TO HOST FIRST SESSION. GROMYKO SAID IT WAS LOGICAL FOR HIM TO BE FIRST HOST SINCE ACCORDING TO HIS RECOLLECTION, KISSINGER HOSTED LAST BILATERAL IN GENEVA.

--HE PREFERS TO START WITH SALT "WHICH IS NUMBER ONE QUESTION IN EYES OF PUBLIC" AND TRADITIONALLY CONSUMES MUCH TIME, THEN MOVE ON TO MIDDLE EAST DISCUSSION. (I NOTED YOUR PREFERENCE FOR STARTING WITH ME BUT SAID I WOULD REPORT HIS PREFERENCE).

--IF TALKS CAN BE COMPLETED BY MAY 19 HE WILL RETURN TO MOSCOW MAY 20. HOWEVER, IF NECESSARY, HE IS READY TO EXTEND TALKS THROUGH MORNING

OF MAY 21 BUT HE MUST RETURN TO MOSCOW LATER THAT DAY.

-- AS HE INDICATED TO DOVRYNIN, HE STRONGLY PREFERS TO AVOID CEREMONIAL SOVIAL FUNCTIONS AND MAXIMIZE TIME FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. "AT THE END OF THE TALKS WE COULD RAISE A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE, SHAKE HANDS AND SAY GOODBY." I SAID THIS ACCORDED WITH YOUR OWN DESIRES.

3. SEPTEL ON GROMYKO'S REMARKS ON SALT AND MIDDLE EAST FOLLOWS.

TOON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE109468
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:HWEINLAND:MG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770170-0818
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770558/aaaabxsx.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5e44d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 107417, 77 SECTO 44065
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2522616
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VANCE/GROMYKO TALKS IN GENEVA
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH), (TOON, MALCOLM)
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5e44d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009